



## Regional Reentry Centers

- Community-based Regional Reentry Centers (operated by the MA Parole Board) help ex-offenders make the transition from prison back into the community.
- Regional Reentry staff can assist released inmates with getting food assistance, obtaining a Mass. Identification Card or renewing a driver's license, opening a bank account, locating employment and finding counseling.
- The DOC will transport state inmates with no post release supervision to the RRC closest to his/her release address. However, all ex-offenders are eligible to go to a RRC, any time post-release.

## Reentry Presentations

- Inmates who are within **6 months** of release are invited to attend an informative presentation that is held at each institution on a regular basis to learn about services available to them upon release.
- Inmates are encouraged to ask any questions they may have regarding their release planning needs.

## Any Questions?

For questions regarding reentry services, please call the institution and ask to speak with the Director of Treatment or go to: [www.mass.gov/doc](http://www.mass.gov/doc).

To **locate** an inmate go to: [www.vinelink.com](http://www.vinelink.com)



## Reentry Services Division



## Friends & Family Brochure

Reentry planning begins upon commitment to the Department of Correction. Access to a variety of useful services and community connections greatly improves an ex-offender's ability to successfully reenter the community.

## Assessments/Programming

Prior to classification, an inmate's needs are assessed by program staff members targeting particular need areas, such as education, vocational training, psychological services, or substance abuse.

A variety of religious, recreational and volunteer services are available at all institutions.

Numerous programs are offered, including: Parenting, Correctional Recovery Academy, substance abuse, and Violence Reduction.\*

Educational Programs include ESL, G.E.D., Pre-G.E.D., and Special Education.\* Vocational Programs include: Autobody, Automotive, Barber School, Building Trades, Cosmetology and Culinary Arts.\*

Eligible Pre-Release inmates who are within 18 months of their parole eligibility or release date may be classified to participate in the Work Release Program. Efforts are made to match the inmate's skills and abilities with appropriate employers. Inmates work at jobs in the community and earn at least minimum wage. The goal is to promote successful reentry by providing employment experience and encouraging post-release employment.

\*Programs vary at each institution.

For more information go online to:  
[www.mass.gov/doc](http://www.mass.gov/doc)

## Reentry Workshop

Although reentry starts upon commitment, the release planning process intensifies **one year** prior to release.

Inmates who are within **one year** of release are identified and encouraged to attend a ten day Reentry Workshop at their institution.

These workshops are offered at all institutions and are designed to support the successful reintegration of inmates to the community, assist with developing a reentry plan and teach basic life skills.

### A reentry plan includes:

- Identifying personal goals
- Living arrangements
- Employment
- Healthcare
- Substance abuse treatment
- Financial planning
- Crisis plans
- Continuing education
- Recreation
- Family/Friends
- Victim awareness/empathy
- Spiritual life
- Community involvement

## Institutional Release Planning Process

Inmates who are within **six months** of release are discussed at monthly meetings in order to identify and develop a reentry plan which addresses the needs of the inmate as he/she prepares for release.

### Release Planning Needs Discussed at Monthly Meetings:

- Housing
- Medical
- Employment
- Legal Issues
- Substance Abuse
- Mental Health
- Transportation

## MassHealth

A historic partnership with the Office of Medicaid (MassHealth) was established in 2004 to ensure released offenders had access to critical mental health, medical and substance abuse treatment.

**60 days** prior to release, the Correctional Program Officer (CPO) and the inmate complete a MassHealth application.

Inmates may be required to submit verification of citizenship in order to be approved for MassHealth services. They are encouraged to obtain their own identification documents (i.e. birth certificates) to expedite the process.

Upon approval for MassHealth, a card is sent to the correctional facility and is provided to the inmate upon release.